

Comment Letter I19

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In reference to SOITEC SOLAR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

3800 12-010 (GPA) Tierra Del Sol, 3300 12-010 (MUP), 3600 12-005 (REZ),
3921 77-046-01 (AP); Rugged Solar, 3300 12-007 (MUP);
ENVIRONMENTAL LOG NO.: 3910 120005 (ER)

PUBLIC REVIEW COMMENT FROM A RESIDENT OF BOULEVARD



We live in a very high Fire danger area. The fact that solar panels would prevent sunlight from entering the areas that they are at would only increase the dangers and put families and homes in more danger.

I19-1

These panels are going to increase the Heat around them. When our high winds flow across them it will send severe heat into our homes, animals, and families.

Have you ever looked under these panels (they have them in Calexico) there is nothing under them. The Wildlife would not be able to live near them, we have a lot of endangered wildlife in our area. When it rained the water run off would cause a lot of erosion, which would give more problems for the wildlife and residence here.

I19-2

We have already had our Property value go down because of the few wind generators that are already here. I know our property values will decline no one wants to live in a industrial park! What kind of guarantee do we have for our home values?

I19-3

Everyone in this area relies on Well-Water. So we have many concerns about this:

1. What kind of guarantee do we have that our well will NOT be effected by these companies drilling wells and using our ground water!

2. What guarantee do we have that all the run off from the panels and work done in this area will NOT effect the quality of our well water? Currently our well water is so good we prefer it to any bottled water you could buy!

I19-4

3. What happens when we have a fire and do not have enough water to fight it!

4. What will happen to families and their animals when a well goes dry because of these companies? We rely on the wells for ALL our water needs!

We believe that no matter what the companies claim there is a severe Glare produced by these solar panels. We have heard some people have to put blackout curtains on their windows to protect the inside of the house from this glare! We could not afford such things and love to see the wonderful countryside from our home (this would be gone if the panels are allowed in).

I19-5

We moved to the backcountry many years ago so we could retire here and enjoy the dark stare lit skies of this area. We commute 130 or more miles, this is our home, we did not buy here to live in an industrial park! This was our investment to have the dark skies and open countryside when we

Response to Comment Letter I19

Andy and Teresa DeGroot

February 5, 2014

I19-1

The County of San Diego (County) acknowledges the commenters' concern with fire risk in the Boulevard area and fire hazards associated with the Proposed Project. To reduce the risk of fire on the site and improve the effectiveness of an emergency response should a fire occur on site, site-specific Fire Protection Plans (FPPs) for the Tierra del Sol solar farm (Appendix 3.1.4-5 of the DPEIR) and the Rugged solar farm (Appendix 3.1.4-6 of the DPEIR) have been prepared, will be approved, and will be implemented. As indicated in the FPPs, adequate access to the project sites will be provided and emergency personnel will receive training. The FPPs were prepared by a County-approved California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) consultant and in accordance with the County's *Guidelines for Determining Significance and Report Format and Content Requirements for Wildland Fire and Fire Protection*, dated August 31, 2010. As per PDF-HZ-3, similar site-specific fire protection plans will be prepared and approved by the San Diego County Fire Authority for the LanEast and LanWest solar farms prior to approval of a Major Use Permit. See also the response to comment O10-80.

	<p>With regard to the commenter's assertion that the panels will increase the ambient temperature in the surrounding area, see the response to comment I1-1.</p> <p>I19-2 All disturbed areas on the project site will either be reseeded with a native plant hydroseed mix or covered with a nontoxic soil binding agent, which will prevent soil erosion; see Chapter 1.0, Project Description, of the DPEIR for more detail. All ground cover would be maintained at roughly 6 inches, which would provide minimal cover for wildlife, but is required for fuel modification purposes. The potential adverse effects of vegetation removal on wildlife was considered and analyzed in Chapter 2.3, Biological Resources, of the DPEIR.</p> <p>I19-3 This comment raises concerns regarding property values. This topic was not evaluated in the DPEIR since it is not related to environmental impacts (see 14 CCR 15131). However, this information will be provided to the decision makers for their consideration prior to making a decision on the Proposed Project.</p> <p>I19-4 Potential adverse impacts related to hydrology and groundwater have been considered and addressed in the DPEIR; see Chapter 3.1.5, Hydrology and Water Quality. Also, refer to FPEIR, Section 2.3.6.2, Riparian Habitat or Sensitive Natural Community and Mitigation Measure M-BI-PP-15 for a description of the groundwater mitigation and monitoring program to</p>
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<p>retired.</p> <p>These industrial parks will only destroy the beautiful countryside and kill more of the wonderful wildlife we have here! No to mention the loss of our property value.</p> <p>As you can tell we are completely opposed to any solar panel farms in our area. We believe if you really want solar power they should be placed on roofs and car ports such as the ones at Kaiser.</p> <p>We hope you will consider the needs of the residence here.</p> <p>Andy & Teresa DeGroot 2693 Paso Alto Court Boulevard, CA 91905</p> <p>FEB 04 2014</p>	<p>be implemented to avoid significant effects on groundwater levels for local well users and groundwater-dependent habitat. CPV trackers are a closed system and runoff from the surface of modules is not anticipated to pose potential health or water quality risks. As part of the Proposed Project, the applicant would implement water quality BMPs during construction and prepare and implement operational stormwater pollution prevention plans (operational SWPPPs) that would post-construction standards required under the statewide general construction permit; site design, source control, and, in some cases, treatment control BMPs necessary under the County's MS4 permit; and other applicable water quality provisions. Refer to Chapter 3.1.5, Section 3.1.5.3.1 and 3.1.5.3.3 for additional detail.</p> <p>Related to the risk of fire and water supply for firefighting, please refer to the response to comment I19-1 above. In addition, the FPPs address adequate fire water supply for the O&M building (see DPEIR Section 3.1.4.3.3).</p> <p>I19-5 Potential adverse impacts related to glare have been considered and addressed in the DPEIR; see Chapter 2.1, Aesthetics. Furthermore, as discussed in Section 2.1.3.3, Light and Glare, nighttime lighting impacts would be less than significant and as such, the dark sky would not be affected. In addition, it has been</p>
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	<p>determined that the Proposed Project would have a less than significant impact on wildlife (see Chapter 2.3, Biological Resources).</p> <p>I19-6 The County of San Diego acknowledges the commenter's opposition to the Proposed Project. The information in this comment will be in the Final Program Environmental Impact Report for review and consideration by the decision makers.</p> <p>References</p> <p>14 CCR 15000–15387 and Appendices A–L. Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act, as amended.</p> <p>County of San Diego. 2010. <i>Guidelines for Determining Significance and Report Format and Content Requirements: Wildland Fire and Fire Protection</i>. March 19, 2007; last updated August 31, 2010. County of San Diego, Land Use and Environment Group, Department of Planning and Land Use, Department of Public Works. http://www.sdcountry.ca.gov/pds/docs/Fire-Guidelines.pdf.</p>
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